

Unroaded area analysis

This paper provides suggestions for addressing comments related to unroaded areas.



Unroaded areas in this paper are in reference to those unroaded areas that are not contiguous to Inventoried Roadless Areas. For unroaded lands contiguous to IRA, refer to "Our Approach, Roadless Area Analysis and Analysis of Unroaded Lands Contiguous to Roadless Areas"

In the simplest terms, an unroaded area could be any piece of land that is not now a road (i.e. the space between roads). More practically address effects on unroaded areas that, because of their size, location, or other attributes may have some of the "wilderness characteristics" or other characteristics normally attributed to "roadless areas" and that may be affected by the proposal.

Responding To Public Comment

If you receive public comments regarding unroaded areas then address them. First screen the area to see if there are any unroaded areas that warrant further analysis. If the public provided a map then use their map. If not then consider those areas with no roads and screen those areas to see if they warrant further discussion.

Suggestions on criteria for screening the unroaded area to see if they warrant a more detailed look.

- Screening Process*
- Is there any unroaded area with size and configuration to exhibit the inherent characteristics associated with roadless condition?
 - Forest plan management direction. What Management Area does it overlap? Does the MA provide direction to protect the ecological conditions?
 - What ROS is the unroaded area in? Does it overlap with less developed/more primitive Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) designations? Or more developed?
 - What is the proximity with existing IRAs or Wilderness?
 - Are there any unique or high-quality habitat, wildlife, scenic, or other resource values in the unroaded area?
 - Evaluate the wilderness/roadless characteristics of the unroaded areas

Criteria for potential from unroaded to IRA.

Wilderness Attributes (FSH 1909.12, 72.1)	Roadless Characteristics
<u>Natural.</u> Whether the area's ecological systems are substantially free from the effects of modern civilization and generally appear to have been affected primarily by forces of nature	High quality or undisturbed soil, water and air; Sources of public drinking water; Diversity of plant and animal communities; Habitat for TEP, candidate, and sensitive species dependent on large, undisturbed areas of land; Reference landscapes
<u>Undeveloped.</u> The degree to which the area is without permanent improvements or human habitation. A measure of undeveloped is the level of human occupation and modification of the area including evidence of structures, construction, habitations, or other forms of human presence, use, and occupation	Natural appearing landscapes with high scenic quality.
<u>Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation.</u> An area's capability of providing solitude or primitive and unconfined types of recreation. This includes providing a wide range of experiential opportunities	Primitive, semi-primitive non-motorized and semi-primitive motorized classes of dispersed recreation

Cont
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Wilderness Attributes (FSH 1909.12, 72.1)	Roadless Characteristics
such as: physical and mental challenge, adventure and self-reliance, feelings of solitude, isolation, self-awareness, and inspiration	
<u>Special Features and Values.</u> The area's capability to provide other values such as those with ecologic, geologic, scientific, educational, scenic, historical, or cultural significance. Examples include unique fish and wildlife species, unique plants or plant communities, connectivity, potential or existing research natural areas, outstanding landscape features, and significant cultural resource sites. Identify and describe any such values and their contribution to wilderness character.	Other locally identified unique characteristics; Traditional cultural properties and sacred sites
<u>Manageability.</u> Consider the ability to manage an area as wilderness as required by the Wilderness Act. Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act defines Wilderness as an area that "... (3) has at least 5,000 acres of land or is of sufficient size to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition. ..." Forest Service ability to manage an area as an enduring resource of wilderness, untrammelled by humans, retaining its primeval character, and to protect and manage its natural character are all factors to consider. Consider such factors as size, shape, and juxtaposition to external influences.	No criteria

Example Tables that Screens Unroaded Areas (info is made up to protect the innocent)

Descriptor	Area A	Area B
Location	Unknown Creek. Between road 75 and 95	Anywhere Creek. Between road 90, 80, 100
Estimated Size	40 acres	500 acres
Primary MA(s)	MA 11 Elk summer range	MA 10 elk winter range (300 acres) MA 9 timber management (200 acres)
Primary ROS	Roaded natural	Semi-primitive non-motorized (300 acres); Roaded natural (200 acres)
Proximity/contiguity	Small area, surrounded by roads, past activities	Isolated parcel. Not contiguous or near any other roadless or unroaded area
Resource values	Elk summer range	Elk winter range. Elk security habitat.

Wilderness/roadless attributes

Descriptor	Area A	Area B
Natural	No. Area is roaded,	Area provides some elk security
Undeveloped	No. Developed, only 40 acres in size	
Opportunities for Primitive and unconfined recreation	No. None, can hear and see activities from anywhere within the 40 acre parcel	Limited. ...
Special features	None. Roaded natural	None.
Manageability	No. Small area, surrounded by roads, past activities	Isolated parcel.

Effects Analysis

If you have unroaded areas that may have unroaded value then evaluate the effects on roadless characteristics. It is important to remember that this analysis is about project impacts on the unique values of unroaded areas and on the potential for the unroaded areas to be designated as IRAs or wilderness in the future. You may be able to just refer to other sections of the document for a discussion (e.g. security area for big game, or semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities in the recreation section); or you can summarize the effects to those other resources in the unroaded section. If you refer, be sure those sections actually talk to the unroaded parcels.

Harris, Jeremy R -FS

From: Kerley, Christa - FS
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:54 AM
To: Harris, Jeremy R -FS
Subject: Hungry Ridge
Attachments: HungryRidge_Alt_2_Veg_Road_Treatment_Unroaded_ROS_MA_20190228.pdf

Hungry Ridge Alt2 ROS Within Unroaded Area		
ROS	NAME	Acres
25	Roaded Natural	2115.4
35	Semi-Primitive Non Motorized	3248.2
39	Primitive	0.6

~~45%~~ 39%
~~62%~~ 60%

MA	Sum of Acres
01	11.82
10	1.29
12	3376.72
16	1092.93
17	375.58
20	443.67
Grand Total	5302.03

2
~~5180~~
total 5363
-64%
-21%
-76
-78%

Hungry Ridge Alt2 Ma Within Unroaded	
MA	Acres
16	0.0
16	3.6
16	77.9
12	35.9
16	78.6
12	37.7
16	29.7
16	17.3
16	45.9
12	60.2
16	70.5
16	10.2
16	0.1
12	26.4
20	0.2
12	22.1
12	19.7

Hungry Ridge Alt2 Proposed Harvest Within Unroaded Area

Unit Number	Treatment Type	RX	Logging System	Acres
42	Intermediate	VDT	Cable	334.0
47	Regen	Seed Tree	Tractor	43.8
41A	Regen	SW	Tractor	63.6
48	Regen	CC	Tractor	227.8
49	Regen	CC	Tractor	115.5
44	Regen	Seed Tree	Tractor	147.3
43	Intermediate	Com Thin	Helicopter	21.4
51	Regen	CC	Helicopter	147.7
46	Regen	SW	Cable	66.2
50	Regen	CC	Tractor	360.3
				1527.7

Hungry Ridge Alt3 Proposed Harvest Within Unroaded Area

Unit Number	Treatment Type	RX	Logging System	Acres
42	Intermediate	VDT	Cable	262.5
47	Regen	Seed Tree	Tractor	43.8
41	Regen	SW	Tractor	63.6
48	Regen	CC	Tractor	227.8
49	Regen	CC	Tractor	115.5
44	Regen	Seed Tree	Tractor	147.3
43	Intermediate	Com Thin	Helicopter	6.7
51	Regen	CC	Helicopter	147.7
46	Regen	SW	Cable	66.2
50	Regen	CC	Tractor	360.3
				1441.5

Hungry Ridge Alt4 Proposed Harvest Within Unroaded Area

Unit Number	Treatment Type	RX	Logging System	Acres
41A	Regen	SW	Tractor	0.0
44	Regen	Seed Tree	Tractor	30.3
46	Regen	SW	Cable	0.0
47	Regen	Seed Tree	Tractor	43.8
48	Regen	CC	Helicopter	115.5
48	Regen	CC	Tractor	111.9
49	Regen	CC	Tractor	42.4
50	Regen	CC	Tractor	173.8
51	Regen	CC	Helicopter	147.7
				665.5

Harris, Jeremy R -FS

From: Kerley, Christa - FS
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 12:48 PM
To: Harris, Jeremy R -FS
Subject: RE: Hungry Ridge

Hungry Ridge Burn Blocks Alt 2,3 Within Unroaded

Burn Block	Acres
4	0.00063
5	1051.4
6	1637.7

Hungry Ridge New Construction within Unroaded

Temp Road Number	Road Type	Post Harvest Action	Miles
30	Specified	Keep	0.37
46	Specified	Keep	1.80
28	Temp	Obliterate	0.27
29	Temp	Obliterate	0.46
47	Temp	Obliterate	0.22

From: Harris, Jeremy R -FS
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 10:25 AM
To: Kerley, Christa - FS <ckkerley@fs.fed.us>
Subject: RE: Hungry Ridge

Thanks....maps look good....Just need the following table acres/miles

1. Control burn acres within unroaded
2. Spec road miles within unroaded
3. Temp road miles within unroaded

Don't need these broke out by road or burn blocks, just an overall acre and mile amount within unroaded....Thanks